COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Inventory of Materials

Topic: Counties W. Va

Title: Formation of Pocahontas County

Author: Rollo F. Yeager

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G. C. & GEORGIA A. BEARD.

Note dated April 6th, 1934 for $10,000.00, due August 6th, 1934, and secured by a deed of trust dated October 16th, 1924, on all the real estate and personal property owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company. Said debt with interest is as follows.

Principal	$10,000.00
Interest from 8-6-1934 to 1-1-1935	241.64
Total	$10,241.64

Your Commissioner reports that the liens of the Bank of Marlinton and G. C and Georgia A. Beard are of equal dignity and are both secured by the same deed of trust, the Rockbridge National Bank of Lexington, Virginia, having assigned its lien by virtue of said deed of trust to G. C. and Georgia A. Beard.

Your Commissioner further finds that these liens are liens on all the real estate owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company and on all the personal property owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company, on October 16th, 1924, and they are not liens on any personal property acquired by the Marlinton Hotel Company, subsequent to October 16th, 1924, or any replacements made by the Marlinton Hotel Company for personal property owned on the 16th day of October, 1924.

LIENS OF THE THIRD CLASS.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS BANK

Note Dated April 14th, 1934, for $5,360.00, with a credit of $60.00, due July 14th, 1934 and secured by a deed of trust dated October 16th, 1924, on all the real estate and personal property owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company. Said debt with interest is as follows:

Juanita Dilley

Chap 4

FORMATION OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY

By the Act of the Virginia Legislature at Richmond assembled in 1821, Pocahontas County was formed of territory detached from the counties of, Bath, Pendleton, and Randolph counties, with an area of 804 square miles Colonel John Baxter of Stony Creek was very active in bringing about the organization of the new county. Two counties were provided for One in We named Alleghany, the other Pocahontas. The intention was to name the county embracing the crown of the Alleghanie Mountains "Alleghany," the other lower down Pocahontas, but owing to a clerical oversight the names were interchanged. Pocahontas was named for the Indian Princess who saved the life of John Smith

Information: W. Va. Blue Book.

FIRST COURT IN POCAHONTAS COUNTY

March 5, 1822 was a very important day for the county, for it was on that day that the first county court was held at the residence of John Bradshaw at Huntersville. John Bradshaw was the founder of Huntersville, and always took an active part in all its affairs.

John Jordan, William Peage James Tallman, Robert Gay, John Baxter, George Barnes, and Benjamin Tallman were present and handed in their commissions as Justices of the Peace, signed by Thomas Mann Randolph, Governor of Virginia.

Colonel John Baxter administered the oath of office, each member qualified four times The four oaths were:

To faithfully perform official duties Fidelity to the Commonwealth of Virginia. To support the National Constitution. To oppose duelling

John Jones was sworn in as high sheriff giving $30,000 bond with Abram

and Isaac McNeel as bondsmen.

Josiah Beard was appointed clerk with $3,000 bond and Thomas Beard, George Poage and James Tallman, bondsmen.

Johnson Reynolds of Lewisburg was qualified as an attorney for the commonwealth.

Sampson L. Mathews was appointed Surveyor of Lands.

William Hughes constable for the Levels with $500 bond, and James Cooper - constable for the upper part of the county.

On the second day of this session of court Jonathan Jordan, son of John Jordan, appointed Deputy Sheriff.

James Callison, William Edmiston, John Hill, John Cochran, Alexander Waddell, John (Little John) McNeill, Robert Moore, Martin Dilley, Benjamin Arbogast, William Sharp, William Hartman and Joseph Balfenberger appointed overseers of roads.

Cyrus Curry from Lexington and Johnston Reynolds of Lewisburg were licensed to practice law as the first two members of the Pocahontas Bar.

Travis W. Perkins licensed to open a hotel.

Huntersville was designated as the county seat.

Information: Price's History and court records).

(The business of the third day was the organization of a state militia, but I do not have my report on that quite completed.)

POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

Chapter 4- Section 4-

Pocahontas County was formed by an act of the General Assembly of Virginia, at Richmond, Feb 5, 1822, of territory detached from the counties of Bath, Pendleton and Randolph. How the name was assigned to this county is not definitely known. There is no doubt but that it was named for the Indian Princess bearing that name. Thomas Mann Randolph, the Governor of the Commonwealth at the time the act forming the new county was passed, was a direct descendant of Princess Pocahontas, and he may have named the county in honor of his kinsoman. Tradition has it that about the time this county was formed, two counties were provided for; one ; to be named Pocahontas and the other Allegheny. The intention was to name the county embraced in the territory on the top of the mountains "Allegheny" and, the one further down toward the sun "Pocahontas", but for some reason the names were interchanged.

Justices designated to act; John Jordin, Wm. Poage, Jr. James Tallman, Robert Gay, George Poage, Benjamin Tallman, John Barter, and George Burner.

They met at the house of John Bradshaw, at Huntersville, March 8, 1822, the day appointed for that purpose.

John Jordin was commissioned by his excellency, Thos. Mann Randolph, Governor of Virginia, as the first sheriff who entered into bond in penalty of $30,000 with Abraham McNeel and James McNeel as his sureties.

Josiah Beard was appointed Clerk and qualified with

Thomas Beard, George Fosge, and James Tallman as his sureties.

Joshua Raynolds was appointed Attorney for the Commonwealth.

Sampson L. Mathews was appointed surveyor.

Robert Gay was appointed Commissioner of Revenue for 1822, and qualified and entered into bond with William Caokley, and John Baxter as sureties.

In 1822 the following persons were recommended to the Governor for appointment for military service.

Benjamin Tallman	Lieutenant Colonel
Wm. Blair	Major
Boon Tallman	Captain of Cavalry
Andrew G. Mathews	First Lieutenant
Benjamin Wellese	Second Lieutenant

Wm. Arbogast, Henry Harold, Isaac Moore, and Milburn Hughes as Captains of Militia.

Robert Warwick	
William Moore	
William Young	Lieutenant in Militia
James Rhea	Lieutenant in Militia

Jacob Slaven, James Wenlose, Samuel Young, and James Callison, as Ensigns in the Militia.

Abraham McNeal	Appointed Coroner

The First Grand Jury:

Samuel Daugherty, (Foreman)	John Moroney
George Kee	John Johnson
Joseph Friel	James Grimes
James Bridger	Samuel Waugh

Henry Herold	Jesse Lewis
John Grimes	Moses Hughes
William Blair	Andrew Edmiston
Samuel Hogshead	Isaac McNeal
William McNeal	John Moore
Lanty Lockridge	Jonathan Griffin
Abraham Seabord	

First Indictments:

David H. Smith, assault and battery

Josiah Beard, obstructing public roads.

Ludivicus Robins, a Presbyterian minister, was the first minister to authorize the rites of matrimony.

May Term 1824

Wm. S. Ferrell licensed to practice law in the county.

Courthouse in Huntersville built in 1824.

May term 1826

The Court proceeded to fix rates:

Ordinaries

French Brandy by the ½ pint	..... 25¢
Whiskey " " " "	..... 12½¢
Rum " " " "	.....25¢
Apple Brandy " " " "	.....12½¢
Hounsa " " " "	.....18¾¢
Peach Brandy " " " "	..... 18¾¢
Wimen " " " "	.....25¢
Diet by the meal	....25¢
Grain by the gallon	.....12½¢
Hay per 24 hours	....12½¢
Indring	[illegible] ...12½¢

September 24

Peter McCain, undertaker of Public Buildings.

November 1822

Levi Moore, Benjamin Tallman, George Poage, Abraham McNeel, Jacob W. Mathews, and William Cackley, commissioned to let out contract for public buildings

May Term 1822

Levi Moore, Jacob W. Mathews, William Cackley, George Poage, Abraham McNeel, Benjamin Tallman, appointed commissioners to advertise for bids for erection of a brick Court house, brick Clerks Office, and brick jail.

June 1822:

To be appropriated toward public buildings: $655.50

June 1823

To be appropriated toward public buildings: 1114.83

June 1824:

To be appropriated for public buildings. 1114.83

Total $2865.16

Additional work on public Buildings. 325.00

3210.16

Sheriffs 1872

W. L. McNeel

N. H Cackley

January 1, 1883 to 1889

N. H Turk

J. C. Arbegast

Prosecuting attorney

Sheriff

Judges:

First Term of Circuit Superior Court held Oct. 3, 1831.

Archibald Stewart	1822	to	1831	
Allen Taylor	Oct. 1831	to	Oct. 1836	
John J. Allen	" 1836	"	"	1840
Edward Johnson	" 1840	"	Sept	1853
Robt. M. Hudson	Sept. 1853	"	"	1861
No court from Sept. 1861 to Nov. 1865.				
N. Harrison	Nov. 1865	"	Apr.	1870
J. M. McWhorter	Apr. 1870	"	May	1873
H. A. Holt	May 1873	"	Jan.	1889
A. N. Campbell	Jan. 1889	"	"	1897
J. M. McWhorter	" 1897		"	1904
W. R. Bennett	" 1904	"	"	1911
Chas. S. Dise	" 1911	"	Mar.	1917
S. H. Sharp	Mar. 1917	"	"	1936
Mark Jarrett	" 1936			

Clerks.

Josiah Beard	1822	to	June	1831
H. M. Moffett	June 1831			
J. Tellman	May 1840	"	April	1845
H. M. Moffett	1842	"	May	1849
Wm. Skeen	" 1849	"	July	1858
Wm. Curry	July 1858	"	May	1865
Robert T. Gay	May 1865	"	Mar.	1867
A. L. LeKeever	Mar. 1867		Jan.	1870
Robert T. Gay	Jan. 1871	"	"	1873
Wm. Curry	" 1873	"	"	1879
John J. Beard	" 1879	"	"	1891
H. L. Brown	" 1891	"	"	1909

J. McCarty	Jan. 1909	to	Jan. 1915		
S. L. Brown	" 1915	"	"	1934	
C. M. Kincaid	1934				

CIRCUIT CLERKS OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

Henry M. Moffatt

Appointed clerk for Pocahontas County, Virginia, on the 23rd day of May, 1831, by Allen Taylor, one of the Judges of the General Superior Court for Botetourte, Alleghany, Bath, Pocahontas and Greenbriar Counties. Resigned Oct. 2, 1839.

James Tallman.

Appointed Clerk for Pocahontas County, Virginia, on the 2nd day of October, 1839, by Judge John J. Allen. Died in office March 3, 1842.

William Skeen

Clerk Pro-tem from March 3, 1842 until May 2, 1842

Henry M. Moffatt.

Appointed Clerk for Pocahontas County, Virginia, on the 2nd day of May, 1842, by Judge Edw. Johnson. Resigned May 6, 1842.

William Skeen

Appointed Clerk May 6, 1842 for Pocahontas County, Va., by Judge Edw. Johnson. Served until July 13, 1842.

William Curry

Elected Clerk for Pocahontas County, Virginia, May 27, 1842. Served from July 13, 1842 until August 17, 1842.

Robert T. Gay

Appointed Clerk by Judge N. Harrison, for Pocahontas County, West Virginia on August 17, 1842. Served until Oct. 14,

William Curry

Elected Clerk August 22, 1872. Served from October 14, 1872 until December 12, 1878.

John J. Beard.

Elected October 8, 1878. Served from Dec. 12, 1878 until January 1, 1891.

J. H. Patterson

Elected November 4, 1890. Served from January 1, 1891 until October 4, 1907. Died in Office.

J. G. Tilton

Appointed to fill the unexpired term of J. H. Patterson by Judge W. R. Bennett on October 15, 1907. Served until his successor qualified January 1, 1909.

C. W. Sherp

Elected November, 1908 Re-elected November 1914. Served until January 1, 1921.

D. C. Atkison

Elected November 1920. Served until 1936.

Keith Nottingham

Elected 1932. Resigned 1936.

Richard McNeal

Appointed 1936 to fill unexpired term of Keith Nottingham.

Gredy Moore

Elected 1936.

John Carter

Appointed April 8, 1932. Clerk of the Superior Court of Law for Pocahontas County, Virginia By Judge Archibald Sharwell [illegible] bond $30,000.00, with Abraham McNeal, William Edmiston, [illegible] and William Coakley as sureties

West Virginia Writers' Project

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G.W Price Marlinton W.Va. and an old issue of Pocahontas Times

Nancy A McNeill Buckeye,W.Va.

County Government Chapter X-

Samuel G Smith Millsboro-W.Va.Pocahontas County.

Old records show that according to assessment in pioneer days that
ses were more plentiful than today and records of Bath County Virgi-
show for the year of 1782 when Pocahontas was a part of Bath that
der George Poage district assessor he listed 80 head of horses for Ja-
b Warwick,William Warwick 22 head and Alexander Dunlap 44 head.In 1791
en Bath County was organized,Samuel Vance was the first assessor of the
rst district XX which included the upper end of Pocahontas County of to-
ay and known today as Greenbank District.At that time there were only
6 taxable people listed owning 1376 horses,4 carriages,and 132 slaves,
e roads in this section of the county at that time were mere Indian tra-
s and had to be widened to permit the use of a vehicle,as the first set-
lers were more concerned about establishing homes and keeping track of the
ndians that were so plentiful in this section,as the Indians or Red Man
ad laid out the many trails that were used by our first settlers,as the
first trails were known as bridle paths as the usual mode of travel was on
orseback and the packsaddle being the usual mode of transporting goods.For
long generations the Indians had followed the same paths beating them smooth
and deep in the forest earth,then came our first settlers and he to used the-
se trails but had to widen and straighten many of them.

It [illegible] there had been no surveying done prior to 1750 but aft-

Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

At this date many tracts were surveyed and titles obtained as the records of Augusta County Va.show,these first tracts were secured by land grants or patents and this was about 1750 to 51 as this is when the oldest settlement of what is now Pocahontas County was made,this by Stephen Sewell and Jacob Marlin and this settlement went by the name of Marlin's Bottom until 1847 when it became Marlinton which is the county-seat.

The early settlers of what is Pocahontas today would make a round trip to Richmond in six weeks ,they would take a load of venison and maple sugar over and trade it in Richmond for produce that the pioneers needed,and in the years that followed they went to Staunton to do their trading this trip could be made in some eight or ten days.when one of these trips were made as much legal business as could be was attended to as the distance was long and the trails steep and rough

There were no schools in this section prior to 1760 and very few after that time for many years,what few schools we had after this date were mostly pay schools and the classes held in some old abandoned building which would be chinked,and daubed with mud which had the open fire place,and greased paper for window lights,the benches of split logs,with pine boxed in for legs the patrons paid the teachers on a percapita basis

the people of that age said all their children needed was to learn to read right,cypher,read the bible and be taught citizenship,the latter was of great value as these people were settling a new country which had to almost entirely enforce what law they had and keep the peace and dignity of the new settlement that finally became Pocahontas County in the rugged hills of West Augusta and now the West Virginia Hills.

Information Rella F Yeager Hillsboro.W.Va.

C.W Price Marlinton.W.Va. and parts taken from the Pocahontas Times of an old issue on county history.

Nancy A McNeill.Buckeye.W.Va.

Research

West Virginia Writers' Project

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Source Calvin Price Marlinton W.Va. Date Filed
G.D & John C McNeill Buckeye.W.Va.
W.G McKeever Buckeye.W.Va.

Information very hard to get,requiring lots of time.

Chapter X County Government—

Samuel S Smith Hillsboro W.Va.Pocahontas County.

According to some of our older folks that remember history the taxes collected from the population that is now Pocahontas did little good anywhere as we were in so many counties at that time that the amount collected by each county was so small that it cost most of it to make the collections, and the Virginia Board of Public Works hardly knew we existed, in those days the only tax collected was on personal property and on real estate, as they had no capitation tax as we do today and the road tax was worked out on the roads around over the terretory on the western waters, each man received a notice when and where he was to work and this was the way they kept most of the roads up at that time, and prior to 1821 there was very little if any improvements on the western side of the Alleghanys.

Prior to the formation of Pocahontas County when an election was held only land owners voted and a majority of the population was Jeffersonian Democrats and the minority party was known as Whigs which in later years came to power. Prior to the formation there was no school tax collected so there were no public schools, only pay private ones and according to Prof. G. D McNeill one of the first of these teachers was Big John McNeill a great grandfather of the present John McNeill of Huntcys.

As to roads and taxation we had only a few trails that in later years were improved and made into our better roads shortly after the form-

County Government.S.C.s Pocahontas Co.——

ties of the county,they were very little needed and they were mere trails save for the main roads leading through what is now Pocahontas County and the side roads were just mere paths or trails so to speak,and these were kept up by the people of each locality by work rather than by taxes,as the law at that time fixed it so that once each year the population of each particular section were called out to work the roads.

The houses at this time were mostly made of logs from the virgin forest and today upon making a visit to consult John McNeill of the Swago section I found a house made entirely of logs built in 1813 by Big John McNeill and occupied at this time by a John O McNeillK this house has a chimney some 15 or 16 feet across at the time this house was built Big John McNeill was not only a teacher but an Indian Herb Doctor traveling about over the entire western centers teaching and giving aid with his herbs.

There were no public schools until after the formation of the county as all schools were built on the eastern side of the mountain,all public buildings erected there and through this practice is what led to the formation of a new county as the people as a whole thought they were not getting a fair deal in the distribution of tax money and what it was spent for,and this along without representation is what led to the formation of Pocahontas County and it becoming a part of West Virginia and known at that time as West

County Government.3-G.5- Pocahontas County.

The events that led to the formation of a new county was the cause the move and it was not for political reasons as it was not a political MM it in any respect but was for the good of the people in general and not for just a few.

Most of the land on the western waters was granted by Augusta County Virginia and records to that affect are found at Staunton in grant book number I.In searching old records I found in the possession of A W McNeill a descendant of one of the first settlers of Pocahontas County one was a deed made in April 1796 granting Thomas McNeill a tract of land and signed by the governor of Virginia at Richmond Robert Brooke Governor aXXXXXXXXXXX this deed was written with a quill on buckskin or same sort of thin leather,the other was a deed from Bath County Virginia the clerks office to Jonathan McNeill to William McNeill in 1818,the first was a land grant the latter a deed from one individual to another.

Information-Calvin Price Marlinton.W.Va.

S.B McNeill.Buckeye.W.Va.& John C McNeill Buckeye.W.Va.

W.S McClover.Buckeye.W.Va.and from old deeds found in poksession of A.W McNeill of Buckeye.W Va.

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Pocahontas-10

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Marlinton.W.Va.

Nella E Yeager.Hillsboro.W.Va.

Hardesty's History And Geographical Encyclopedia.

Standard Dictionary Of Facts.

(Int) Government-Granville G Smith Hillsboro, Va. Poca. County-

According to my informant Mr G J Price there was no political division in Virginia from which Pocahontas County came prior to 1750 and according to Mr. Price the land comprising Pocahontas County came from many different counties of old Virginia as Augusta County with the county seat of Staunton was formed and the land made available in 1722 in the treaty with the Indians at Albany this treaty dealt with the western waters of which we are now apart. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX or part of the county of Augusta. In 1777 Botetourt was formed and ran to the mouth of Swago Creek and on the south on down the Greenbrier. Harrison County from Swago Creek north this was surveyed 1785 and took in land from the head of Spice Run to Elkanehassett Island. The formation of Pendleton County was Arbovale now in the upper section of Pocahontas and took in all the land north Randolph County was formed 1792 and run from the Greenbrier line north to Beverly. formation of Bath County was in 1792, thus Pocahontas County was formed in Bath County to the Pendleton County line with Randolph County [illegible] of Allegheny and Elk and Gauley valleys The county seat prior to the formation of Pocahontas County was Staunton in Augusta County.

The people of the territory now Pocahontas were very little dependant [illegible] government as it was so far away that they never visited it [illegible] they [illegible] a [illegible] secure a marriage license. A record of the

County Government.S.C.B Pocahontas Co.

[illegible] County Court of 1774 excuses Charles Jamison because he [illegible] beyond the droop,referring to our Droop Mountain here in Pocahontas County Charles Cameron clerk of the Bath County Court lived at what is Dunmore at the present time in our county of Pocahontas.

The County court members were all Justices of the Peace and attended to all matters as they do today but met only 2 or 3 times each year.The farmers were very little concerned over the affairs of the Western Waters as they were busy trying to make a living and not so much interested in their county government as this section layed in so many different counties of old Virginia there was very little hopes for cooperation either by the farmers or the county in which they were a part at that time.And the Virginia board of Public works hardly knew we existed and at that time there was two political parties namely the Jeffersonian Democrats and the Whigs,and the laws passed by the Assembley did not show much concern for the people across the mountain or the ones on the Western waters that later became Pocahontas.

Information---Calvin W Price Marlinton,W.Va.
Hardesty History And Geographical Encyclopedia.
Court Records.

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Pocahontas - 10 West Virginia Writers' Project

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Rella F Yeager. Hillsboro. W. Va.

Unwisely's Historical & Geographical Encyclopedia.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT-SAMUEL G SMITH MILLSBORO.W.VA.POCAHONTAS CO.

Pocahontas County lies in the extreme eastern portion of the state ,and is the southernmost of what is known as the mountain tier of counties ,it is bounded on the North by Randolph County,Northeast by Pendleton East and Southeast by Highland and Bath Counties,in old Virginia,South by Greenbrier and West by Greenbrier and Webster.The surface is mostly rough and mountainous ,and it is here that the traveler beholds lofty longitudial and transverse ranges ,trending to every point of the compass,and as he stands and gazes upon the scene spread out before him,he experiences that feeling of sublimity which ever impresses the traveler when surrounded by lofty mountains Here he stands entranced with the picture of scenic grandeur spread out before him whose power reared those mighty masses around him and realizes that he who did it "caused a thousand worlds to be."

It was in the month of March in the year 1821 that the general assembly of Virginia passed entitled an act to provide for the formation of a new county out of parts of Bath,Pendleton and Randolph,the area at this time was 760 square miles but in 1824 the southern boundary was changed thus taking a slice off of Greenbrier and increasing the area of Pocahontas to 820.this area of land was to be known as Pocahontas in memory of and in honor of the Indian Princess of that name.

Prior to the formation of Pocahontas County the early settlers of the

ty Government.S.O.S-Pocahontas Co Page 2

tern side of the Alleghanie Mountains had to go to Warm Springs the Co-
nty seat of which we were originally a part to pay their taxes,get a marri-
age licenses and attend to all legal matters,their only mode of travel being
on foot or horseback and it being considerable distance was very unhandy so
when the new county was made the county seat was established at Hunterevi-
lle in Pocahontas thereby making their county government closer home and
making everything very much more convenient for the settlers as they had to
spend as much of their time as possible at home making a living,clearing
the ground,supplying the table with meat.Before the formation of the new co-
unty the sheriff of Bath County collected the taxes,enforced the laws and
kept order.Court was held at Warm Springs with the judge,attorneys and jus-
tices of that section and often it was impossible to locate the sheriff to
look after affairs on the western side of the Alleghanyathis was very unsa-
tisfactory to the settlers on this side so they began to talk a new county
with a new county seat with their own local men as heads of the new county
government.About all the attention given our people was on tax day and the
money being spent on the Eastern side of the mountain and this did not suit
the people of what was known as West Augusta at the time before the formation
of the new county,this section being mountainous and settled by the sturdy
[illegible] and to the settlers that they were getting t

consideration they thought they should have so they began to work on the formation of the present county,but to accomplish this end some of the most influential men of this section had to spend considerable time negotiating with officials of old Virginia,this took place during James Monroes term as President of the United States he being a native son of Old Virginia.

Information-W.S McKeever,Buckeye.W.Va.
Nelle F Yeager,Hillsboro, "
Hardesty's Historical & Geographical Encyclopedia.

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Source: County Court Order Books & Sheriffs Books-Marlinton, W. Va.

Date Filed:

...t government. Samuel . Sitt Hillsboro. Pocahontas County. ...

...ust after the formation of the county in 1821 the taxes were raised by assessing each male person over 21 years of age amounts varying from 25 cts, to well over a dollar according to population as they estimated how much it would take to run the county government then assessed each inhabitant of the county his proportionate part, this system was used for a number of years but as the county grew and more revenue was needed to run it a levy was layed so much on the one hundred dollars valuation of each property owner, this was sufficient until the county government expanded as it took more men to run it as the population grew as the population was greater, more people to protect, more records to keep, more roads to build and maintain, the levy was around $ 2,500.00 for many years but gradually raised year to year until at the present time the taxpayers of Pocahontas County pay in the neighborhood of $ 71,823. not counting public service tax & the total expenditures of the county for 1940 were $ 283.466.00n not counting public assistance

In 1920 the general county purpose estimate was $ 44,092,44 to be spent on the main highways or class A roads of the county. The total value of Pocahontas County in personal property in 1920 was $ 14,697480 as shown by the assessment of that time, the amount to be raised by levy 26,743. besides the amounts to be raised for each district to be used as class B roads and otherwise, District road funds to be raised by Greenbank District was $ 5,41253 the value of the district was $ 4,206,265. for Dunmy District for road pur-

[illegible] text in [illegible]

[illegible]unty [illegible] C Smith, [illegible]

[illegible]ts [illegible] value of the district $ [illegible] for [illegible] in the [illegible]strict road purposes $ [illegible],110,21 and a total value of the district 1,705,436, for [illegible] levels for district road purposes $ 7,457 70 and the value of the district [illegible] personal property $ 2 552568. For 1921 the general county levy was 30 cts on each $ 100.00 valuation of last assessment, the county road fund levy order was 15 cts on the one hundred dollars valuation, this was for general county road purposes while the following was the figures for district road purposes 15 cts on each one hundred dollars, besides the 20 cts additional for Greenbank District to meet her bonded indebtedness as they voted in 1920 - 260,000.00 road bond that had to be retired each year this is the only bonded indebtedness of any of the districts of the county.

In 1925 the general county purpose estimate receipts 4.773 and the estimated disbursements by the county court that lays the county levy is [illegible] 22,63 and the amount to be raised by levy $ 46,949 76 this amount to be raised by a 30 cts on each 100 00 valuation of all taxible property within the county, the estimated receipts available for county road fund purposes [illegible] 19[illegible] and the estimated disbursements of [illegible] 57,273,99 and the amount that the county court estimated that would have to be raised by levy [illegible] amount to be raised by a 25 ct rate on each 100.00 valuation [illegible] that the total value of the county according to the tax

County Government.Samuel C.S— Pocahontas Co.

assessment was $ 15,049,920.xxxxx the estimated receipts 1,441.00 and estimated disbursements $ 8,013.00 leaving the amount of $ 6,572.00 to be raised by levy at the rate of 15 cts on the 100.00 valuation these figures were for district road purposes which was divided as follows real estate $ 1,889,570.personal property $ 1,019,510,public utility property $ 1,'72,8 or total value of Greenbank District $ 4,381,338.

For Edray District the estimated receipts were $ 850.00 and the estimated disbursements were $ 6615.00 leaving $ 5,764.00 to be raised by levy at 15 cents on the 100.00 valuation,the value of the Edray District was as follows real estate $ 2,740,160.00 personal property $ 770,250.00,utility $ 402,520.00 or a total value for Edray District of $ 3,842,950.00 Huntersville District estimated receipts 84.00 estimated disbursements $ 3099.00 leaving $ 3015.00 to be raised by levy at 15 cent rate on real estate valued at 1,072780 personal property 466,050 and public utility 471,343.00 or a total of 2,010,173 for the value of the district. Little Levels District estimated receipts 150.00 and the estimated disbursements xxxx 5,104.00 leaving $ 3,852.00 to be raised by levy at the 15 ct,rate,the total value of the real estate in Little Levels in 1928 was 1598,690 personal property 468,880 and public utilities 500,743 or a total value for the district of $ 2,568.313

The board had sinking fund estimate to meet the intrest on the

County Government.P.O.S.-Pocahontas Co. Page [illegible]

$260,000.00 road bond of the Greenbank District that was voted by the people of that district in 1920 was $ 15,150.00 to pay interest and so much as the principle so they could retire this bond at the set time their rate was 30 cts on each 100.00 valuation as follows real estate $ 2,191,460.00 personal property $ 1,524,170.00 Public Utilities $ 1,5 761 44 or a total taxable value for the district of $ 5292.774.00 .

The General County levy for 1932-33 county road fund levy order 25 cts on each 100.00, the amount to be raised to construct and maintain roads in the county was $ 26,216.00 and the district road levies were as follows Greenbank District 24.730.00 at 15 cts on the hundred, Edray District $ 3,925.00, Huntersville District $ 1,781.00 and Little Levels $ 2,300 00 all at the rate of 15 cts on the hundred.at this time Green-bank District had to raise $ 14,350.00 to apply on their bonded indebt-ideness also the county had to lay a special levy of 2 cts to go toward the running of the Pocahontas County Memorial Hospital, this meant they had to raise $ 2000 00 the hospital having been taken over by the county after 20% of the legal voters signed a petition asking for such action by the County Court at that time.Aside from this a special levy of 1½ [illegible] to take care of the county Agents salary that was paid by the county the remainder of his salary is and was paid by the state.

After the passage of the Tax Limitation Amendment in 1932 we had 4 classes of property each having a different rate Class # 1) was all tangible employed exclusively for agricultural purposes including livestock, all money, notes, bonds and stocks of all kinds and all other intangible personal property. # 2) was all real estate. # 3) Real estate, personal property and public utilities. # 4) Real estate, personal property and public utilities defined as follows # 1) all residence property in municipalities and all real estate outside of municipalities used for agriculture purposes.

2) all automobiles, trucks, tractors used commercially outside of municipalities. # 3) also all real estate outside municipalities used commercially also mineral and timber. # 4) all rented property, trucks, automobiles and etc located inside municipalities or any property used commercially. The rate is as follows # 1-Class ½ct, # 2-1 ct. # 3)-2 cts and # 4-2 cts. The limit any district can go is the following for Class # 1-not to exceed 50 cts, # 2 not to exceed $ 1.00 # 3 not above $ 1.50 and Class # 4-1.50 to raise the levy above these figures means that it will have to be voted on by at least 60% of the voters of the county and state. The present rate in the various districts are as follows for Little Lewis, Huntersville and Adray District they have the same 33 3 cts while Dryebank has that rate plus 14 cts to take care of their [illegible]

[illegible] Okes [illegible] Hillsboro

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Colonel Bo[illegible] 3

Date 8/27/-2

Research Worker Samuel G.Smith

Date Research Taken 2/17,-7,-9,20/-2

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Source Sheriff Office,Warrington.

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.Va. File Books 1935 to 40.

...nty Government.Samuel G.Smith.Hillsboro...Vs.Pocahontas County.# I-

In 1918 the county levy was $ 239.277.00 with Public Service tax collected of $ 47.011 00 or a total expended by our county of $ 242.859.00 with a balance in the county treasury of $ 101.135.00. In 1923 the County Levy was $ 379.419.00 Public Service tax collected $ 68.797.00 and the total expenditures of the county for that year was $ 398,525 00 with a balance in the treasury of the county of $ 59,000.00.In 1928 the County Levy was $ 467,415.00 and a public service tax collected of $ 86,769.00 with total expenditures for the county of $ 415,566,00 with a balance carried over in to the next year of $ 51,509.00.No doubt this was the most taxes Pocahontas County ever collected by levy to run the county government.the population of the county were staggering under the tax load they had to carry and something had to be done if the county was to continue to grow and develop its resources and function properly,so in 1932 T.C Townsend the Republican nominee for governor had the tax limitation amendment put [illegible] the voters of the state and it carried by a very large majority but [illegible] failed in being elected,but this amendment meant more to the people of [illegible] Pocahontas County than any legislation enacted within the state in many years as this distributes our taxes to be collected over a broader level and [illegible] [illegible] property used for agricultural purposes [illegible] [illegible] property that was inside [illegible] legislation that was re-

In 1932 when the Tax Limitation Amendment was voted on by the taxpayers of Pocahontas County little did they know how much they were to be benefitted by it.The farmers of the county were benefitted more than any other people,as it shifted a greater part of their tax burden to other groups or individuals that up until that time had paid a very small part of the taxes collected in the county.In 1934 instead of the county levy being forty[illegible] the large amounts it had been in the preceeding years the county levy was for $ 72,282.00 and the public service tax amounted to $ 34,146.00 and the total expenditures of the county were $ 708,289.00 with a balance of $ 63,649.00.

Up until that time it had taken from $5 to $ 30.000.00 to take care of the poor and dependent of the county but in 1933 when the State and County Department Of Public Assistance began to function this amount was taken over by the state all but 15 % that was to taken care of by Pocahontas County,but as a depression was on many families were forced to apply for help as this load grew until in 1939 the amount spent in Pocahontas County to assist the needy was $ 52,000.00 not counting administrative costs.

[illegible] sales tax created in 1932 of 2, that is collected [illegible] state,goes partly to the school fund in 1935 the amount collected [illegible] the road and [illegible] until

[illegible] collected [illegible] 6 00 but this was a slight decrease to [illegible] collected since this consumers tax law was passed but [illegible] condition began to improve and the wage earner had more [illegible] and this fund increased considerably, this or a greater part [illegible] comes back from Charleston to pay our school teachers, thus lifting this burden from the shoulders of our heaviest tax payers to the shoulders of the ones that heretofore paid little or no taxes, thus they contributed very little toward the expenses of our county government until this tax law was passed. In broadening our tax plans we have what [illegible] to be relaxed by county levy but which no relaxed otherwise [illegible], in these classes of taxation we have the Consumers Sales Tax, The Inheritance tax, gross sales tax, have collected by the Internal Revenue Department and others.

The [illegible] and development of our county has been brought about [illegible] tion for its taxation and brought out our free School [illegible] children could receive a free school education and [illegible] on the farm, in our [illegible] our county affairs. The [illegible] individual [illegible] or its citizens [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] taxation Pocahontas Co[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in many, [illegible] [illegible] as we have a good county government working for and with the people of the county, a school system surpassed by none, and buildings of the best while our court house and jail are among the best built some time ago and [illegible] surpassed by ones built recently throughout the state, we have a vast road system as every section of the county has roads over which our citizens travel daily performing the tasks they have to do, we have have [illegible] enforcement bodies performing their work nobly all these and many more are the things that has caused our county to prosper and make it a good [illegible] in which to live, a county government of the people, by the people [illegible] people built with toil and sweat which was given by our pioneers [illegible] infancy of the county that we today might have a county government [illegible] democratic form that would stand the test [illegible] in the end [illegible] people to follow and continue our American way of life, that [illegible] county might live our lives and contribute from [illegible] [illegible] of mankind, All of which is [illegible] taxation, as our count[illegible] like [illegible] by taxes of [illegible]

POCAHONTAS COUNTY-

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Typist Samuel G.Smith. Date Typed 2/27/42

Source Court Records.Marlinton.W.Va. Date Filed

[illegible]

[illegible] collected

[illegible] the county.as

[illegible] fair

[illegible] the [illegible] to [illegible] the

[illegible] about the Ou-

[illegible] each has the

[illegible] that they had.

[illegible] was to pay the sala-

[illegible] nted to only a fe

[illegible] it

[illegible]

- - - -

[illegible] Sawmill [illegible] made and a [illegible]
[illegible]ties and other products that are sold not counting a [illegible]
[illegible] others which help to make up the revenue with which to [illegible]
[illegible] local county and state and federal government.

Information.Court Records Marlinton W Va.

est Virginia Writers Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Research Worker Samuel G. Smith. Date Research Taken II/5,6,7/41

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COUNTYS Government Samuel G.Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

Pocahontas County from the very beginning has been noted for its fertile soil,its healthy climate and its good county government therefore many outside people have migrated here,some for their health others seeking to establish a home while others came for employment and so in 1847 many people from outside the western waters began to come in and among them were Cornelius and Nicholas Stulting and John Vanrenan who were born in Utrick one of the states of Holland,they all came to the United States in 1847 and were born in Holland in 1790,1821 and 1804 respectively,locating in Pocahontas County in 1847 and at the same time became citizens after first being passed upon by the court of our county,these men brought with them the many ways and doings of their father country and after settling within our borders taught the settlers to be thrifty and energetic citizens.

In 1852 William J Woodsell was elected Sheriff of the county with Allen C.Burner and John A.Holden as his deputies this was for a two year term Thomas Hill was again selected as commissioner of the revinue for another term.Thomas A.Bradford was elected attorney for the commonwealth by this court for a four year term beginning July 1.1852.William Skeen was elected Clerk of the County Court for a term of 6 years starting July 1.1852.About this time the rate of [illegible] the county roads was raised to 75 cts per day.

1037 tithables.At this time the court decided best to classify the justices that were to hold court for November 1852 and they were Justices Buckley, McLaughlin and Burner class # 2 was to be held by Hill, Carter,and Osmon for March term 1853.Class # 3 was to be held by Hudson,Rhea, and Gay June term 1853.# 4 Wanless,Bruffey and Gilliland for August term 1853.# 5 held by Justices Warwick, Lockridge and Kerr for the November term 1853 .

The only place for crazy people at that time was at the Lunatic Asylum located at Staunton Virginia and so any one that went crazy on this side of the Allegheny Mountain was sent by the court of Pocahontas County to this institution for treatment.Henry M Moffett who had served as Clerk of the court for many years died about 1851,he having accumulated quite a fortune at that time and his son had to give bond to the amount of 40.000.00 to settle the estate.

In 1852 the county was districted and the following men served on the districting board George Johnston 6 days at 2 00 total 1200 . Wm.Cochran 6 days or 12.00,Hugh McLaughlin 3 days or 6.00 and Solomon Arbogast 2 days or 4.00 or a total of 34 00 paid these men for their service in districting the county.Pocahontas County has many streams and it was about this time that the court had a majority of these streams bridged. [illegible] was all authorized by the court and paid by the Sheriff of the Co-

It was unlawful for a free negro to run at large without proper reg-
istrationfurnished by the court.

William Curry is chosen deputy clerk for William Skeen.Patrick Br-
uffey one of the pioneers in our county government died and his son Wil-
liam was chosen to fill the vacancy as justice for district # 4.A list of
delinquent land taxes for 1852 amounting to $ 79.17,personal property 6.4
and capitation tax delinquincies of $ 16.25.

Court records show the men serving on the court that inspected the
~~inspected~~ the records from July.1.1852 to August.1 1853.Paul McNeel attended
court 17 settings at $ 3.00 a setting or a total of $ 51.00
George Barner attended 4 days @ 12.00.Patrick Bruffey 4 days 12.00.David
W.Kaar 6 days 18.00 Elijah Hudson 6 days 18.00 William T.Gammon 6 days
18.00. James T.Lockridge 4 days 12.00.William Baxter 7 days 21.00Josiah
Buckley 4 days 12.00 Levi Hamless 8 days 24.00.John . Carwick 4 days 12.
00.Michael B.Gilliland 5 days 15.00.Archibald Shea 4 days 12.00.John Gay
7 days 21.00.Abraham Hill 4 days 12.00.Hugh McLaughlin 9 days 27.00.
William S.Bruffey 1 day 3.00 or a total of 100 days and 300.00.

By an order of the court a grandjury shall be chosen for terms of
court June and November and the number to be drawn was to be 16.At a cen-
sus taken in Pocahontas County in 1850 it was found that we had a popul
[illegible] this [illegible] 60 persons that were

itants of the county and duly Qualified to act as jurymen as requ-
d by an act of the General Assembly.The county levy was layed for
1853 with the bounty on Red Foxes at 1.00 Greyes 50 cts,Black Bear 1.00
and Wild Cats 1.00 the amount of the levy was $ 1,118.34.At the July
term 1854 the levy was for $ 1,809.50 The levy for 1855 was for $ 2,419.
mch of which was spent in surveying and establishing the county lines.The
levy of 1856 was for $2,050,30 this was to be collected from all males 16
years or older this included all colored people over 16 also.The levy for
1857 was $ 2,377.99 and the one for 1858 was for $ 2400.00.

About 1853 it was decided by the court that it was advisable to buy
a poor farm to be used to care for the less fortunate and a committee was
appointed by the court to select a farm for not less than $ 2,000.00 nor
more than $ 3,000.00 those appointed to serve were William J.Tooddell,John
Day,Daniel McLaughlin and George W C Addisten these gentlemen were to make
a survey and report back to the court at a later date.

William J.Tooddell was again chosen Sheriff of Pocahontas County
with Isaac McNeal,John S."ooddell and James F.Holden as his deputies and
the following term of sheriff was held by John S.Tooddell as William J.Too-
ddell had resigned as Sheriff Johns deputies were James Holden and Isaac
Ter[illegible].For the year of [illegible] it cost the county [illegible]00 to care for the

or of the county. Among the many duties of the overseers of the poor was to bind out dependant children in good homes and if possible teach them a trade like tanning, saddelry and any other trade they might be able to take up. until they were 21 years of age.

It was in the year of 1854 that the first books were bought to register births, deaths and marriages in this custom still prevails in the county and in 1856 they recorded 160 births, and 24 deaths, this work was performed by the commissioner of the revinue but was over and above his regular duties and for 1856 he received $ 5.02 for his services for which he received $ 200.00 . James P. Moore was chosen commissioner of revinue July 1858.

Delinquent land tax for 1854 was $ 154.90 and the time spent by the court was 57 days. At this time grandjurymen were paid 1.00 a day and petit jurors paid .50 a day . It was in April 1856 that the sheriff ordered poll books to be used for the first time in the presidential election.

Thomas Hill was elected Assessor March 10. 1865 with William T. Gammon as his assistant. At that time it required about 45 days to assess the county with one helper or deputy. During these days they had toll gates and most of them were on the Lewisburg-Marlins-Bottom Road, to have a toll gate required a toll house and often a cite had to be sendemand by the [illegible] of the county court for the year of

unty Bo ment S.G.B Pocahontas County-Page 6-

mounted to [illegible] 10.00.and the amount spent by the court for jurors co [illegible]

d jurymen and Petit-jurors amounted to $ 64.00.At June court 1858 Thomas

ll was chosen Coroner for the county and Sherman Clark was chosen Surveyor

for the county for a six year term with George McNeel as deputy surveyor.Wi-

lliam Curry was elected Clerk of the County Court for a 6 year term starting

January 1.1858.

Information- County Court Order Book # 4-5 and 6

Court House-Marlinton.,Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

West Virginia Writers' Project

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3/41 County Government.Samuel G.Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

At the June meeting of the County Court of 1859 they ordered Josiah Beard,George Johnston,James Kellison and Jessey Cochran to act as a commission to view a site for a road from the old Beard mill on Locust Creek to Spice Run with intersection with the road leading up Little Creek and thence to the Greenbrier County line .It was at this same meeting of the court that the county levy was layed amounting to $2,772.60 and of this amount $1,116.64 was to go to meet the needs of the poor.

No doubt the first Notary Public to serve Pocahontas County was none other than William Skeen as he was commissioned by the Governor of Virginia January 1.1860 to serve as a notary for Bath,Allegheny and Pocahontas Counties and from that time to the present we have had men commissioned as Notarys for the County and state.It was at this same time that William Curry was commissioned a title an special commissioner to settle and adjust all accounts that came before the court.At the May term of court it was deemed advisable to take a poll of the county to see whether or not the court should buy a farm to be used in caring for the poor, this poll was to be taken the last of May.1860.William Skeen was chosen an attorney for the commonwealth of this county for a term of 4 years starting July 1.1860.James [illegible] was elected Sheriff of the county for a two year

...ne and Amos Barlow as his deputies.James I.Moore was elected commissioner of the revenue of Pocahontas County for a term of two years starting February 1.1861.

The county levy of 1860 was $ 2,465.61 to be collected from 1152 tithables and the following July term the court layed the levy for 1861 which amounted to $ 2,458.58 from 1143 tithables

It was on March 1861 that a committee composing of John McNeel,John S.Buckman and Wm.O Kinnison were appointed to view a way for a road from the Phoebe McNeill Mill on Swago Creek up the mountain to David Burgesses by way of Spruce Flate thence to Beaver Dam on Williams River and today this old road is visible but not in use,this road was on what is known as the Young Mountain but was replaced in later years by a road up near Camp Secret Hollow and on to Williams River.

At the February term 1862 the Justices of the county were summoned by the court to appear before that body pertaining to the matter of getting salt from the salt works located in Smyth County Virginia,known as the Stuart Buchanan Company.Allen C Burner was chosen to act as agent for the county,as the county could only get her quota which was distributed equally among the inhabitants of Pocahontas County.Shortly after this we obtained salt from The Washington Salt Works all this salt was put out by the Governor of [illegible] and distributed according to the number

in their families.So all the salt used on the western waters came from old Virginia,having to be brought great distances often by pack horse and in later years by wagons that made trips to the Eastern side for supplies twice yearly in the Spring and in the Fall,this made salt very high but was very essential to the inhabitants of what is now Pocahontas County as there was no laws on game of any kind and their principal meat supply came from the Deer,Bear,Wild Hogs,Turkeys and other wild game that roamed this vast wilderness during the first half of the 18 th century,this meat had to be preserved by salt,besides what was used in salting the domestic animals of the Pioneers of this county.So it is plain to be seen that the County Court at that time had a very difficult task administering these alloted products,and it was about this time that an agent was chosen by the court to obtain medicine from old Virginia for the inhabitants of the what is now Pocahontas County,as all supplies had to be passed on by the Governor of Virginia,that is the salt, medicine and other goods that had to be processed in different parts of Virginia and sent out to her many localities within her borders.

It [illegible] no little task for these gentlemen to administer to such a vast territory as Pocahontas ranks third in area of square miles with 942.61 [illegible] by Randolph and Green river.Pocahontas having 4 magisterial [illegible] to wit [illegible] districts,is in the 2 nd Congressional District

[illegible]

[illegible] serving [illegible]

[illegible] mode of [illegible]

[illegible] resemble a [illegible]

[illegible]

it [illegible]

sen that [illegible]

ernment, [illegible]

enacted by the[illegible]

[illegible] coun[illegible]

West Virginia Writers' Project POCAHONTAS COUNTY

West Virginia Writers' Project

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Marlinton, W. Va.

Blue Books of 1935 to 39

West Virginia Writers' Project — POCAHONTAS COUNTY

West Virginia Writers' Project

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Date Filed:

Marlinton, W. Va.

Blue Books of 1935 to 39

County Government.Samuel G.Smith.Hillsboro W.Va.Pocahontas Co. # I.

The county roads when the county was first settled were mere trails cut out of our vast wilderness by the Indians when the first white settlers came from beyond the Alleghenys they began to cut out these Indian trails that in the years that followed became our main highways,but the two roads of note were the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike coming from across the Allegheny Mountains and The Marlina Bottom Lewisburg Turnpike,these two roads led to supply lines, and Railroad centers outside our borders,and the revenue of the county went to keep up these two roads as they were the main ones used to get supplies in from Staunton,Hillboro on the East and to the Greenbrier and Greater Kanawah Valleys on the South.These roads were plain dirt roads which became almost impassible in the fall and winter months,a greater part of these main roads were kept up for years from toll collected at various toll gates along these main highways,but these were gradually done away with and taxation kept them in repair.Along about 1900 the first macadam roads were built taking the place of the dirt roads that were so numerous throughout the county.The coming of the hard roads meant increased taxation and many times a certain district within the county [illegible] bond bonds in order to raise an amount sufficient to complete load- [illegible] in particular district this meant higher rate of taxes

[illegible] government [illegible] Pocahontas Co. # 2

[illegible] of these bonds, much of our county roads have been built [illegible]

The gasoline tax and the money derived from the sale of automobile license have lifted a great burden from the county governments shoulders as a share of this tax revenue to build and maintain our class (A) roads while our secondary or class (B) roads were kept up by county taxes until 1932 when the state took over all roads in the state, all machinery and equipment that was owned by by the counties throughout the state Pocahontas County has approximately 1,500 passenger cars, 350 trucks and 10 motorcycles [illegible] travel the roads throughout the county that they themselves help to build and maintain by gasoline tax and license.

Until [illegible] 1933 and 34 many sections of the county were without roads [illegible] since that time the C.P.A and the C.C.C have built roads until [illegible] time there are very few sections in the entire county without [illegible] road and roads have been built by the C.C.C into the [illegible] and plenty of [illegible] these roads that we find our at the [illegible] in Pocahontas. [illegible] in the horse [illegible]

[illegible] Governor Samuel C.Smith.Kilbourne [illegible] Pocahontas Co.r 3. [illegible] District Road fund and in this way if a certain district wanted to build some extra road over and above their allotment from both the general county fund and that they might have available in their district road fund,they could issue bonds to be retired by extra taxation on this particular district.((Report next week will deal with the bond issues of Pocahontas County from time to time.))))))))))))))

In 1926 when A.C Barlow was elected to the County court replacing E.H Williams the court had three democratic members which is thought by many citizens in the county to be unsafe as it is thought that the minority party should have representation on the court who in turn represent the population of the county.In 1926 William M.Buckley of Buckeye ran for state senator carried the county by a good majority but failed to carry the other counties in this senatorial district.In this same year Dr.George F.Hull of Durbin was elected to the House of Delegates.In 1926 R.E Nottingham was elected Assessor with J.R Gum, L.E Callison and Miss Anna Lee Irvine as his deputies.E.Reid Moore was elected Sheriff on the Republican ticket with R.C Crowley,R.E Bruffey and [illegible]rd Mollohan as his deputies.

In 1932 [illegible]ard was elected Sheriff on the Republican [illegible] [illegible] A.P Lager [illegible]

[illegible] County [illegible]

[illegible] over his republican opponent [illegible] Cook

[illegible] Nottingham was elected over his republican op-

[illegible] who had filled this position for 12 years prior to [illegible]

[illegible] Zinsmeister was successful for County Clerk over E.C Smith

[illegible] candidate A.N Nottingham was elected Assessor over Edd

[illegible] was elected County Surveyor over John McNeleon, with

[illegible] elected over A.C [illegible] for County Court member for Ju-

[illegible] to the House of Delegates The late F.R [illegible] elected [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] of the county voted on an amend-

[illegible] and comment up until that [illegible]

[illegible] amendment after much early pro [illegible] co

[illegible] the votes were counted it was found [illegible]

[illegible] 1905 and against ratification [illegible]

[illegible] was elected Sheriff over [illegible]

[illegible] of 3 [illegible] to 3 [illegible]

[illegible] opponent by a vote of [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] to the House Of Delegates from Pocahontas over his Republican
[illegible] D. L. C. McCutcheon 2813 to 2426. Moody Kincaid was elected County
[illegible] Scott Allison by a vote of 3426 to 1771, Richard McNeel of
[illegible] having been appointed by the court to fill out the unexpired
[illegible] of Earth Nottingham resigned. Clerk of the Circuit Court failed to run
for the next term but Sandy Moore was elected over D. C. Allison by a vote
of 2[illegible] to 2[illegible]

About [illegible] to 15 miles all [illegible] men out on our
[illegible] numerous forest fires [illegible] out burning over thousands
[illegible] of this out over land far back in the mountains the smoke being so
[illegible] was crowded in by low humidity to our towns and villages until it
[illegible] hility to be very poor and for many miles away the [illegible]
[illegible] stifling these fires had to be [illegible] at the [illegible]
[illegible] county so much out this time thousands of dollars [illegible]
[illegible] County [illegible] of the county for fighting fire this [illegible]
[illegible] out over the county calling men out to [illegible]
[illegible] provision [illegible] District of [illegible]
[illegible] County [illegible] Report from [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible]

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject County Government. Date 3/6/42

Research Worker Samuel G.Smith Date Research Taken 3/2,3,4,5/42

Typist Samuel G.Smith Date Typed 3/6/42

Source Court Records.Marlinton.W.Va. Date Filed

W.Va.Blue Books 39-40

Jay Buckley.Buckeye.W.Va.

[illegible] ent. [illegible] Smith Pillsboro, Va. Pocahontas Co. W. Va.

The first settlers that settled on the eastern side of the Allegheny counties took up large tracts of land especially along the Greenbrier River and other water courses in what later became Pocahontas County Their taxes were very little but at that time money in any amount was hard to raise. One of these settlers and large land owners was John B. Buckleys grandfather who had 17,000 acres of land between Marlinton and Violet laying on both sides of the Greenbrier taking in the Buckley Mountains for which this chain of mountains was named, on this large tract the late John Buckley the pioneer paid 0.75 on this entire tract for one year, the taxes were payable at Staunton Virginia, thus this long trip to pay their taxes so you can easily see why a new county was formed and our county government brought closer home to the inhabitants of the upper portion of the Greenbrier Valley. Back about that time some of the Kellisons owned 350 acres near Violet and the owner said he would have to sell off part of his land because he could not pay the taxes which were only 0.75 for the entire tract all of which was paid at Staunton Virginia, the money was hard to get and the trip to Staunton was long and t[illegible] consuming all of this and more led to the formation of Pocahontas County in 1821 [illegible] this section was getting very little if any benefits from the taxes they pay. [illegible] very [illegible] comparison of our taxes of today, but we do get [illegible]

[illegible] C. [illegible] and G.Smith.Hillsboro.-.Va.Pocahontas Co. [illegible]
[illegible]ne and it is [illegible] doubtful if this section would have advanced as it has,if it had not formed a seperate county functioning within itself.

Pocahontas is and has long classed as an advanced educational county having had one of the first High Schools as it would be termed today the Old Academy at Hillsboro and one at Greenbank serving the people of both the upper and lower end of the county until today Pocahontas County has 3 accredited High Schools with 28 teachers,these High Schools are The Little Levels District High located at Hillsboro,Bray District high at Marlington and Greenbank High School at Greenbank besides our 60 elementary schools of these 11 are Graded Schools with more than one room and ~~in this~~ we find 6 colored or Negro schools scattered about over the county where our colored population is the greatest.These 63 schools employ 136 teachers as employed by the High Schools while the remainder of 108 are employed for our elementary schools,this is less schools and less teachers than was used in the county up until about 1922 when Consolidation was started,as we had around 80 schools up until that time that employed about 160 teachers.

Up [illegible] until about 1933 it took about half of the taxes collected in [illegible] county to [illegible] our schools and pay our teachers as the state

d was very small up until [illegible] the state has contributed greatly in our school system and revinue as in 1939 the state contributed $ 175,571.00 and in 1940 the state sent to this County $ 161,810.00 and the following is the amount spent by Pocahontas County in that year current taxes collected $ 62,611.00 state aid $ 151,810.00 other receipts $ 11,588.00 total receipts all funds $ 236,009.00 spent in Pocahontas County for school purposes all this money was raised by taxation of some sort either by our county levy or by taxes collected by the state in Pocahontas County and returned to the county in the form of State Aid to our school system,the state aid is determined by the amount of taxes that the state collects within our borders mostly by the Consumers Sales tax but others are collected also and a percent returned to the county.

Under our old tax system our County Court could raise that over amount that their estimate called for but after the passage of the tax limitation Amendment they were not able to do this so other sources of revenue had to be established to meet this shortage of money so if it was not for our state aid we would have shorter terms of school and our entire educational system curtailed.

[illegible] the [illegible] and health of any county or

[illegible] particularly true in Pocahontas as at the time of the [illegible] of a new county in 1821 the taxes collected by Virginia of which [illegible] a part were a mere trifle but the population in this section at that time received very little consideration in any way,but after Pocahontas was formed and our county government was in the midst of its people right away we began to grow more taxes were collected from year to year,which was spent wisely on necessary improvements and today Pocahontas County the third largest county in the state in area has advanced greatly,by developing her resources cleared our level fertile sections that today produce our vast numbers of livestock and grain that in turn make up our property for taxation that the county is operated on

Pocahontas County has a very efficient county government for her people by her people and for her people.

Information.County Records.Marlinton.W.Va.

Jay Buckley.Buckeye.W.Va

W.Va Blue Books 39-40.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject County Government

Date 11/1/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Hatfield

Date Research Taken 10/27,28,29,30/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 11/1/41

Source County Court Order Book #5 Marlinton W.Va.

Date Filed

1/41 County Government.Samuel G.Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas County.

At a meeting of the court of April 4th,1849 the following gentlemen were present Paul McNeel,Joseph Moore.John Gay,and Samuel Hogsett members present,they proceeded to lay the county levy which was $09.50 to be collected from 961 tithables this was the largest levy thus far layed in the county.William Blair was again chosen Sheriff of the with William J Wooddell, Isaac McNeel,James T Lockridge and John Walden as his deputies.At this time it was deemed advisable to divide the county into districts for the election of overseers of the poor for the county.At this setting of the court they acted on the citizenship papers of James Dorney a native of Ireland,and he was admitted and became a citizen of the United States.

Henry M Moffett resigned as clerk of the court and William Skeen was acting clerk for a time until the court appointed him as clerk for a seven year term.A court held May 1,1849 was composed of the following gentlemen justices James Barr,William Fertig,John A.Patrick,John McNeel,John Yeager,Patrick Bruffey,Samuel Hogsett,Leonard Herring,Benjamin Tallman,Edward Irvine,Jacob Mathews,Lenty Lockridge,Josiah Beard,William McNeel,Woods Peage,David Kerr,Hugh McLaughlin,Abraham Hill, illiam Geckley,Paul McNeel, [illegible] May and J [illegible] Moore at this time the levy was layed for $[illegible] which was [illegible] 10% 40 to be collected from 980 tithables and at this time it was thought [illegible] ary by the court to repair the court house and jail not to exceed 50.00

1/24 County Government. Samuel G. Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.

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Henry M Moffett resigned as clerk of the court and William Skeen was acting clerk for a time until the court appointed him as clerk for a seven year term. A court held May 1, 1849 was composed of the following gentlemen justices James Barry, William Hertig, John H. Patrick, John McNeel, John Yeager, Patrick Bruffey, Samuel Hogsett, Leonard Herring, Benjamin Tallman, Edward Irvine, Jacob Mathews, Lanty Lockridge, Josiah Beard, William McNeel, Woods Poage, David Kerr, Hugh McLaughlin, Abraham Hill, William Cackley, Paul McNeel, [illegible] May and Joseph Moore at this time the levy was layed for 1849 which was [illegible] 109.40 to be collected from 980 tithables and at this time it was thought [illegible] necessary by the court to repair the court house and jail not to exceed 50.00

n this benches were to be made for the jury room.Isaac Moore was commissioned sheriff of the county with James and William Bruffey and John Holden as his deputies.

The court of 1850 May term consisted of the following men William L Fertig,James Edmiston,John McNeel,John Yeager,William Cackley,David Kerr, Samuel Hogsett,William L McNeel,Hugh McLaughlin,Lanty Lewbridge,Paul McNeel and Sampson Mathews.At this term of court an assessor was chosen in accordance of an act of the general assembley so Paul McNeel was chosen the first assessor of Pocahontas County.The levy for 1850 was for $10. from 989 tithables.It was ordered by the court that an open poll be taken of the white free holders ,tax payers and persons over 21 years of age chargeable with the pay of the county levy,also whether the County Court of this County shall subscribe to the capitol stock of the Virginia Central Rail Road Company a sum not exceeding 10.000.00.Thomas Hill was again chosen commissioner of the revenue for Pocahontas County for the year of 1850,Paul McNeel submitted a report of assessment of lands and personal property in Pocahontas County which took 35 days to perform his duty,his bill was authorised payed by the court and certified to the auditor of public accounts for payment.

The county was layed off into school districts,the first commencing at [illegible] and a straight line to the mouth of Sittlington Creek,thence [illegible] county line [illegible]

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all the people in the upper end of the county.# 2 commencing at Andrew Mathews to John Cleeks by the carding machine known as Bradshaws,# 3 starting at John Potts thence with the number one line to Andrew G Mathews thence with the line of # 2 to the Bath County line and to Solomon Aldermans, thence by the Cummings place thence to the river at Joshua B Keys,#4 starting at John Townsends thence to John Townsends,thence to Big Spring fork of Elk,thence to the county line near Josiah Bridgers this includes all the inhabitants on Elk and Laurel Creek and Stony Creek and back to Joshua B.Keys.# 5 starting Jonathan Griffins and connecting with the line of # 3 and 4 to the mouth of Stamping Creek up the same to its head and to the Nicholas County line.# 6 starting with line number 5 down the river to the Greenbrier County line thence to John Oldhams to Casebolts store to the county line on old Nicholas road,# 7 starting with a line of # 6 and taking in all the remaining families in the lower end of the county The men selected as school commissioners were as fallows for district # I was Patrick Bruffey,# 2 Preston Moore,# 3 William Skeen.# 4 Isaac Moore,# 5 John M Ruckman,# 6 Thomas Hill,# 7 Josiah Beard.

William Skeen was chosen Superintendant of schools for Pocahontas County,starting January 1,1850 so he was the first county Superintendant

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William Skeen was chosen Superintendant of schools for Pocahontas County,starting January 1,1869 so he was the first county Superintendant [illegible] has lived [illegible]

re and today we find our schools still under the supervision of a county superintendent,this office having been created in 1851.

The sheriff produced in court a list of land MMM to be sold for the nonpayment of taxes for 1845-46-47-48 and 49 this land was sold October 1 1850 so this custom was started in 1850 and is still practiced in our county today Isaac Moore was again chosen sheriff of the county until 1852 his deputies were William Bruffey,James Bruffey and John Bolden.A court held April 1 1851 was made up of the following justicesJoseph Moore,Benny Tallman,Samuel Eggett,John McNeill,and Leonard Herring.About this time Sampson L.Mathews takes over and has surveyed 7,000 acres of land on Stamping Creek and Cranberry River,which refers to a survey of 3.000 acres in 1787 of George Olmedum,John McNeel and John Beckley,this Mathews tract is the vacant land between these surveys of 1787.Many of our larger estates were surveyed between the time of the formatios and 1850 and some of these larger tracts are still together today,as much of Pocahontas County is taken up by some of our larger farms of from 500 to 2500 acres found in various parts of the county.

In 1851 the court room was enlarged and a new clerks office built this served the county for many years.

It is at this time that the records show that a free man of color [illegible] a tract of land from George Greenbrier and

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it is thought by many that this is where Cesar Mountain got its name as these colored people lived here for years after their master died.This land is recorded in the clerks office in Bath County Virginia of 1796.

This county like all civilized countries had to have ministers of the gospel for preaching on the sabbath day also to perform marriages that took place from time to time over the county,as religious activities played a very important part in our county government from its very beginning and so on up to the present time as no country can survive without some sort of christianity so on October 7,1851 Joshua Buckley a Methodist Protestant minister is ordained a minister of the gospel and a license was granted him to perform marriages within the commonwealth.

Benny Tallman is chosen Sheriff and Commissioned by the Governor of Virginia to serve until 1853,his deputies were Jacob Kennison,and John A. Folden.

By this time our county government was functioning nicely and the inhabitants on the western waters were better satisfied than before the formation as they felt they were better served by a government ~~IN~~ with the the county government is their midst and so today we find the closer the government is to the people the better it functions .

I mation-County Court rder ook # 5 Clerks Office-Marlinton -.Va.

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Information-County Court Order Book # 5 Clerks Office-Marlinton W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas
Chap. 10

Subject County Government

Date 10/25/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken 10/22,23,24/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 10/25/41

Source County Court Order Book # 4
Marlinton, W.Va.

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West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas
Chap. 10

Subject County Government Date 10/25/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith Date Research Taken 10/22,23,24/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 10/25/41

Source County Court Order Book # 4 Date Filed

Marlinton, W.Va.

James Sharp was commissioned Sheriff to serve until the first quarterly court for the year of 1845,James T Lockridge,William J Wooddell & John Holden were commissioned as his deputies.The levy for 1847 was layed and it was /96.42 to be collected from 932 tithables this being one of the largest levies layed and this was the largest population up until that time ~~xxx~~.The levy was the following.

Jacob W Mathena 6 days as surveyor of public roads	3.00
Paul McNeel for 24 chairs for court house and hauling same.	33.00
Benjamin Herold 4 days as surveyor of roads.	2.00
Isaac Moore 3 days " " " "	I.50
Thomas H Poage II " " " " "	5.50
Thomas H Poage I pound of gunpowder	.50
Hugh McLaughlin 2 days as surveyor of public roads	I.00
James W Moore 3 days " " " " " " and putting up two index boards.	3.00
John B Hill,Benezer Whiting,Richard Hill and Abraham Hill I old wolf scalp	IE.00
Josiah Morrison 4 old red foxes	6.00
Benezer Whiting for 2 old fox scalps	3.00
Jacob Sible for 2 days surveying public roads	I.00
[illegible] roads	[illegible]

James Sharp was commissioned Sheriff to serve until the first quarterly court for the year of 1843,James T Lockridge,William J Wooddell & John Holden were commissioned as his deputies.The levy for 1847 was layed and it was $96.42 to be collected from 932 tithables this being one of the largest levies layed and this was the largest population up until that time ~~xxx~~.The levy was the following.

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Hugh McLaughlin 2 days as surveyor of public roads	1.00
Jesse W Moore 3 days " " " " " " and putting up two index boards.	3.00
John H Hill, Benezer Whiting, Richard Hill and Abraham Hill I old wolf scalp	12.00
Josiah Morrison 4 old red foxes	6.00
Benezer Whiting for 2 old fox scalps	3.00
Jacob Hiblo for 8 days servcting public roads	1.00
[illegible] on public roads	2.50

[illegible] Bruffey for 10 days service on county roads----------5.00

[illegible]ary Grimes for 3 days service on public roads---------1.50

Marshall Peyatt for 2 young Red Foxes----------1.50

Abel Adkison for 4 days service on public roads----------2.00

William Harper for 3 days services on public roads----------1.50

William Hogsett for 5 days surveying on public roads----------2.50

Richard Hill for 1 old Red Fox scalp----------1.50

Richard Hill, William Morrison, James Kellison and Alexander Morrison for

1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Abraham Cutlip for 2 old red fox scalps----------3.00

Adam Nottingham for 4 days as surveyor of public roads----------2.00

Hamner Whiting for 3 old red fox scalps----------4.50

Samuel McCay for 5 days as surveyor and for sign boards----------4.50

Alexander M Sharp for 2 red fox scalps 1 young and 1 old----------2.25

James Kellison and Richard Hill for 2 old wolf scalps----------24.00

Josiah Collison for 11 days as surveyor of public roads----------5.50

John Waugh for for 5 days and 3 index boards----------5.25

James T Smith for 1 old red fox scalps----------1.50

William P Hill for 1 crowbar 4.17 and 1 sledge 4.00----------8.17

Jno.P [illegible] for building [illegible] at court house----------10.00

ox Druffey for 10 days service on county roads----------5.00

ary Grimes for 3 days service on public roads---------I.50

arshall Peyatt for 2 young Red Foxes----------I.50

bel Adkison for 4 days service on public roads----------2.00

William Harper for 3 days services on public roads----------I.50

William Hogsett for 5 days surveying on public roads----------2.50

Richard Hill for I old Red Fox scalp----------I.50

Richard Hill, William Morrison, James Kellison and Alexander Morrison for

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Abraham Cutlip for 2 old red fox scalps----------3.00

Adam Nottingham for 4 days as surveyor of public roads----------2.00

Homer Whiting for 3 old red fox scalps----------4.50

Samel McCay for 5 days as surveyor and for sign boards----------4.50

Alexander W Sharp for 2 red fox scalps I young and I old----------2.25

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John Waugh for for 6 days and 3 index boards ----------5.25

James W Smith for I old red fox scalps----------I.50

William P Hill for I crowbar 4.17 and I sledge 4.00----------8.17

Joe.P [illegible] for building chimney at court house----------10.00

Albert Gay for 3 days as surveyor of public roads----------1.50

Phillip Meyer for 7 days as surveyor of public roads----------3.50

Josiah Beard for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Charles W Grimes for 3 old and 3 young red fox scalps----------6.75

George Rider for 2 days as surveyor of public roads---------- 1.00

Richard McNeel for 6 days as surveyor of public roads----------3.00

Levi Cackley for 2 old red fox scalps----------3.00

Mathias Robbs for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Mathias Pette and Jerome McCloud for one old red fox scalp----------1.50

John McNeill for 3 days as surveyor of public roads----------1.50

Arch Rhea for 11 days as surveyor of public roads----------5.50

William Gum for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John H Funkman for 8 days surveying public roads----------4.00

Alexander H Rider for 4 days service on public roads----------2.00

William Blair for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Hannah for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Hannah for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Andrew Hanlons for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Knachen for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Benj Allen for 2 young red foxes----------1.50

bert Gay for 3 days as surveyor of public roads----------1.50

Phillip Moyer for 7 days as surveyor of public roads----------3.50

Josiah Beard for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Charles W Grimes for 3 old and 3 young red fox scalps----------6.75

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William Blair for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Hannah for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Hannah for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Andrew Gaulme for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

John Bowden for 1 old wolf scalp----------12.00

Sam Callow for 2 young red foxes----------1.50

County Government.S.G.S.Pocahontas Co.page 4

Samuel V Burnside for I old red fox ---------- I.50

George Kerr for 6 days as surveyor of public roads ---------- 3.00

John Arbaugast for 4 days and index boards ---------- 2.75

George Young for 4 days on public roads and I index board ---------- 2.75

William D Hefner & B.Griffin for 2 young red foxes ---------- I.50

Solomon Coonrad for I old wolf scalp ---------- I2.00

Robert B Tallman for 5 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 2.50

John Stutts for 6 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 3.00

William Moore I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Franklin B Moore for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Josiah Barlow for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Henry Barlow for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Joseph Cochran for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

William Baxter for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Andrew Duffield for 5 days on public roads ---------- 2.50

Benoni Griffie for 2 days services on public roads ---------- I.00

Thomas Beal for 6 days services on public roads ---------- 3.00

Jas. Whitney I old wolf scalp for benefit of Isaac Moore ---------- I2.00

John McWhorter for 9 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 4.50

William N Farrell for Commonwealth attorney ---------- I00.00

County Government.S.G.S.Pocahontas Co.page 4

Samuel V Burnside for I old red fox ---------- I.50

George Kerr for 6 days as surveyor of public roads ---------- 3.00

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William D Hefner & B.Griffin for 2 young red foxes ---------- I.50

Solomon Woodrad for I old wolf scalp ---------- I2.00

Robert B Tallman for 5 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 2.50

John Shrite for 6 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 3.00

William Moore I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Franklin B Moore for I old red fox scalp -- - I.50

Josiah Barlow for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Henry Barlow for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

Joseph Cochran for I old red fox scalp ---------- I.50

William Baxter for I old red fox scalp - ---------- I.50

Andrew Duffield for 5 days on public roads -- ---------- 2.50

Benj I Griffie for 2 days services on public roads - --- I.00

Thomas Beal for 6 days services on public roads ---------- 3.00

Jas. [illegible]tney I old wolf scalp for benefit of Isaac Moore ---------- I2.00

John McIlwee for 5 days as surveyor of roads ---------- 4.50

William M Farrell for Commonwealth attorney - ---------- I00.00

A.M Moffett clerk of the court ---------- 190.00

same for stationery ---------- 30.00

James Sharp (Sheriff Pocahontas County ---------- 75.00

James Holden jailor ---------- 50.00

A.M Moffett for I order book ---------- 8.50

For depositions ---------- 100.00

A list od delinquinoies in the county for the year 1846 was presented for 21.25 which is accepted by the court.Along about that time any merchant that chose to sell liquor was granted a license by the court to sell Jamaica brandy the this license cost 15.00 Hean Warwick was granted a license for his store at Big Spring to sell liquor at retail.On motion of Jacob Kinnison it was ordered that John H Buckman,Richard McNeel,John Hill Edward Kellison and William Young act as a commission to view a site for a road from Stephen-hale Run to the top of Sunkeye Mountain near William Aulbridge thence to Phelps McNeills mill and thence to George Kees.

William Blair,Thomas Cashbolt and William Cochran were selected by the court to examine the bridge across Locust Creek ,this was done at the courts setting August,3,1847 The bridge was at the Josiah Beards Mill there is still and old covered bridge at this same place serving the many people of Locust Creek and vicinity today and the rock works of the proc-

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From the formation of the county it was a constructive era that took place within the county and much of the progress and growth was brought about by the untiring efforts of these old gentlemen that so faithfully served on our County Courts of the first part of the 18 th century.These men were the true pioneers in our county government and today many of our roads were layed out and surveyed by men that were pioneers in our county government.

At a special session of the court held February 1,1848 the following gentlemen were present Hugh Mclaughlin,Jacob W.Mathews,Isaac Moore, Sampson Mathews,Paul McNeel,Leonard Herring,and John Gay.At this meeting William Blair was chosen Sheriff with James Lockridge,William Wooddell and John Nelson as his deputies.On April,17,1848 another called meeting was held this time to try a negro slave named Henry and belonging to Josiah Beard for burning a storehouse belonging to Henry Gascholt,the Negro plead not guilty but was hired for one year to his master for his good behavior.

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A license to operate a house of private entertainment was fixed by the court at 3.00.

By way of comparison the county has grown from the sparcely settled wilderness as it was at the beginning of the eighteenth century until at the last census of 1940 it had a population of 13,906 this shows the efficiency a county government from its beginning up until the present time.

Information-County Court Record Book # 4 Marlinton.W.Va.

741 COUNTY GOVERNMENT S.C.S.POCAHONTAS COUNTY.PAGE 7--

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RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject County Government — Date 10/15/41

Research Worker Samuel G.Smith — Date Research Taken 10/14,15,16,17/41

Typist Samuel G.Smith — Date Typed 10/16/41

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-3/42 COUNTY GOVERNMENT, SAMUEL G.SMITH HILLSBORO.W.VA.POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

Soon after the county was formed the court proceeded to organize the county Militia.as a part of the military establishment of the state. The following named persons were named as fit and proper persons to fill the respective offices so the Governor and the ~~XXXXX~~ county requested the appointment of the following John Baxter for Colonel Commandant of the County of Pocahontas,Benjamin Tallman for the office of lieutenant Colonel, William Blair for Major,Boone Tallman,William Arbogast,Henry Herold,Isaac ~~XX~~ Moore,and Milburn Hughes Captains.Andrew G Mathews,Robert N Warwick,William Morgan,William Young and James Rhea as Lieutenants.Jacob Slavens,James Yankee Samuel Young and James Callison for ensigns.

Patrick Bruffey was selected as a suitable person for Sheriff he getting his commission from the Governor of Virginia,his deputies were Paul McNeel,James Bruffy and John A Holden were appointed as his deputies,~~XXXXX~~ Bruffey to serve from Dec.1843 until the first quarterly court in the year of 1845.The levy was layed and it was found that it would take 779.52 to meet the expenses of the county for that year this being collected from 822 people included in this levy was 50.00 to Daniel Friel for repairing the jail making it a fit and safe place to hold prisoners.

One of the duties of the court at this time was to grant or reject a [illegible] permission to put a fence or a gate across a highway and all persons

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT.S.O.S POCAHONTAS CO.page 2———

Bruffey had to be consulted.Patrick Bruffey was commissioned Sheriff with James Bruffey and John Holden as his deputies for 1845 and 46.The levy for 1845 was for 678.87 from 857 tithables this levy was layed by Sampson L. Mathews,Hugh Mclaughlin,Samuel Hogsett,& Joseph Moore.Thomas Hill was elected by the court as commissioner of revenue for the county,this usually required 75 days each year.James Sharp was chosen Sheriff until 1847 with Adam Nottingham,William Waddell and John Holden as his deputies.The clerk of the court was designated by the court to settle with all Sheriffs that had finished their term of office.Henry M Moffett is again chosen clerk of the court with John Newton Craig as his deputy.At this time the court fixed the rates of ordinaries with a slight raise over former years.The levy for 1845 was 497.50 from 697 tithables this shows a gain in population and as many of the roads were finished the levy was lower than before,so most of the levy was for the salaries of the county officials,pay bounty on Wolf scalps and bounty on Red Foxes,about this time the county was beginning to prosper and needed roads into other counties so a delegation of men were selected to go to other counties asking their cooperation in making roads that served as communication lines for many years one of these old roads or trails is still very plain and is often referred to by people of this particular section this is the Old Nicholas Trail that is found on and near Elus Knob on Vi- [illegible] connecting link between Nicholas County

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.S.O.S POCAHONTAS CO.page 2———

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Pocahontas.About this time the court proceeded to lay the county off in school districts in persuance of an act of the general Assembly passed on the 5th day of March 1846,so the court proceeded as follows the first district commenced at James Townsends at Stony Bottom and a straight line to John Sharpe on the head of the south branch of Sittlington Creek.# 2 commencing at the line of the first and extending to William Bradshaws carding machine and up to the ford of Knapps Creek near Huntersville # 3 commencing at the line of the second at Samuel Hogsette from there to the Cummings place and from there to Jonathan Griffins and to the Nicholas County line # 4 starting at Cummings place down Greenbrier River opposite the head of Beaverlick to James Piles place and to the mouth of Stamping Creek to the Nicholas County line,# 5 commencing at the line of the 4th& at the Greenbrier County line and running to John Oldhams and from there to John Beards mill and from there to Samuel Whitings and joining up with the line of the 4th,# 6 starting at the line of the 5th at the Greenbrier County line to the Nicholas County line this covered the remainder of the county,this being completed the next task for the court was to select a commission for the county one man coming from each district and known as the school commission as follows for district #1 Patrick Bruffey,# 2 Preston Moore,#3 Isaac Moore,# 4 John H Huckman, # 5 Thomas Hill, # 6 Josiah Beard.

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3/41 COUNTY GOVERNMENT AA 8.0.3 POCAHONTAS COUNTY page 4---

At page 175 in County Court Order Book # 4 I found a note written by the clerk of the court then William Skeen as follows .Of free and colored slaves.For 1830 they had within the county 114 slaves and 5 free colored,for 1840 they had 92 slaves and 6 free negroes and for 1850 they had 148 slaves and 8 free negroes.

In 1845 the following men sat as a jury to hear any complaints and to make any indictments that may deem advisable John M Jordin(foreman) Moses Poage,Timothy Alderman,Nicholas Simmons.Abel Atkinson,Ben Griffin, Anthony Lightner,Alexander Morrison,Allen Galford,Jacob Cassel,John Houshen,Elijah Hudson,James Lockridge,Peter Buzzard,William Moore,John Sheets, William Nottingham,Joseph Friel,John Bannah,William McGloughlin,John Carpenter,

3 & 4

Information-County Court Order Book.Marlinton.W.Va.

3/4I COUNTY GOVERNMENT AA S.G.S POCAHONTAS COUNTY page 4---

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3 & 4

Information-County Court Order Book.Marlinton.W.Va.

The levy of 1828 was 737 33 to be collected from 659 people for 1829 levy was 341.00 from 661 people. At this time the clerk of the court received 35.00 the Sheriff 40.00 and the jailor 25.00 and in 1828 the Sheriff was Robert Gay,Josiah Beard Clerk of the court and James Brindley Jailor.About this time wolf scalps were raised to 8.00 and the men allowed.50 cents a day for working on the public roads of the county.Valentine Cackley was deputy Sheriff under Gay.

The overseers of the poor were forced to bind out children of any family found to be in destitute circumstances.In the levy of 1828 James Elliot was allowed 5.00 for laying out the streets of Huntersville then the county seat.

It was the duty of the County Court to fix the rates of taverens also the rates for keeping stock seized by constables under executions.Benjamin Tallman was again commissioned as Sheriff of the county with Boon Tallman and James Brindley as his deputies.At this time the court deemed it advisable to lay the county off into districts so the constables could keep within their respective and allotted territory,the upper end of the county known as Dry Fork [illegible] 1,# 2 to Deer Creek,# 3 all inhabitants from Knapps [illegible] chosen [illegible] were jobs had to be honest and upright citizens.

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Floyd was Governor of Virginia at that time.The court of 31 consisted of
George Hurmer John Gillam,Joseph Moore,John Bradshaw and Jacob Mathews,with
Benjamin Tatman as Sheriff and Paul Mowell as his deputy at this time the
Sheriff had been raised to 50.00 .In selecting a Sheriff for the next term
a ballot was taken and when the ballots were counted it was found that the
two nominated by the court had tied,each getting 6 votes,the two contest-
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Jailer.At this time John McGuire was commissioned as Coroner for the county.

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ants were John Warner and Jacob W Mathews,after sometime the Governor of Va.
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ay and some who had served as an Indian INNA spy,these men having attain-
ed the age to receive this money,each man had to prove his service rec-
ord and have his discharge.George Burner was again commissioned as Sheriff
of the county with Mathew Edmiston as his deputy.Jacob Mathews succeeded
him as high sheriff of the county these men were all serving one year,and
again in 1835 he was chosen Sheriff for another term.In 1836 a bounty was
put on Red Foxes of $1.00 each this raised the levy somewhat but as this
section was beginning to produce several sheep it was deemed necessary to
take such steps to safeguard the property of the farmers.

In 1837 the 7th of March the following men sat as a Grandjury for
and in Pocahontas County,Thomas Gannon(foreman) Nathaniel Kinnison,William
Duffield,Abraham Jordin,Hugh McLaughlin,John R Fleming,James Moore,Frederick
Bohr,Samuel D.McCutcheon,Teada Pengo,George Edmiston,Henry Dunham,William
Moore,John Ricker,Reuben Buzzard,James Amy,William Sharp,Isaac Moore,Wm Cl-
ark,Daniel Alderman,and Robert McCutcheon these men were sworn to consider
presentments,and after sometime presented an indictment against Leon Tall-
man for failing to take in the taxible property as Commissioner of Revenue
this case was kept in court for a time but finally was dismissed.Many cases
were carried from one term of court to another,moreso than today and they
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[illegible] John Illand been [illegible] sheriff [illegible] man [illegible] failing to [illegible] his duty without [illegible] cause was fined by the court. The sheriff always summoned the justices of the county to perform their [illegible], to act on all legal matters, lay the levy, try a person that had been elected, select constables, the court from time to time fixed the price to be paid at Drunkenness and houses of private entertainment. It was at a called meeting of the court of April 1.1839 that was called to consider the case of Joseph Lewis (a man of colour) that he being [illegible] an is asking to be allowed to remain within the county under an act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth.

At this special setting the following men were appointed as [illegible] the following roads of Pocahontas County, John Duffield the [illegible] the road from Moses Hughes to Col. John Sills, Samu[illegible] [illegible]ntersville, John Lewis from Moore McNeills to Earl[illegible] [illegible] Intersville to the 14 mile tree above [illegible] [illegible] forks of Knapp's Creek to the Bath County li[illegible] [illegible] Arbogasts, Little John McNeill [illegible] John Mathews to Robert McCutch[illegible] [illegible] appointed at [illegible] Radcliffe to the

[illegible] time John [illegible] Bre-
[illegible] Sheriff [illegible] who failed to an-
[illegible] to perfo[illegible] is duty [illegible] without [illegible] that cause was fined by
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fixed the price to be paid at Ordinaries and houses of private entertain-
ment. It was at a called meeting of the court of April 1.1839 that was
called to consider the case of Joseph Lewis (a man of colour) that he being
a free negro was asking to be allowed to remain within the county under an
act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth.

At this special session the following men were appointed as
[illegible] of the following roads of Pocahontas County, John Duffield the
[illegible] Co, the road from Moses Hughes to Col. John Hills, Samu-
[illegible] Waterville, John Bolcold from Moore McNeills to Earl-
[illegible] from Waterville to the 14 mile tree above [illegible]
[illegible] the forks of Knapps Creek to the Bath County li-
[illegible] roads to [illegible] Arbogaste, Little John McNeill
[illegible] Adam Lantz [illegible] from Robert Crutch-
[illegible] turnpike road at [illegible] Sidrs to the

[illegible] COUNTY COURT [illegible]

[illegible]ombrier County line Henry Grimes from bridge near Chas.Grimes to Leon-[illegible] Herrings on Knapps Creek [illegible] Branch from head of Browns Creek to Chas Grimes Levi Cackley from 26 mile tree on Beaverlick Creek to Huntersville, John Gilland from Thomas Bradshaws to top of mountain on Williams River, Abraham Hill from Amos Kinnisons toward Nicholas County, Jacob Lightner from Henry Berolds to Leonard Herrings lane, John Jordin from Bradford on Beaverlick Creek to 25 mile tree, James [illegible]ods to top of Valley Mountain at Randolph County line, to Cloverlick Solomon Buzzard from Thomas Galfords to Fanny Arbogasts John E.T[illegible]dd from top of Rich Mountain to Greenbrier County line, Jacob Mathers from Robert McMitchfans to the ½ mile tree above Wm. Bradshaws this covered about all the roads of mention of the county at that time.

The court ordered that William O Price, John Hill, David S. Buckman & [illegible] Hamilton be appointed commissioners to superintend the election of Rep[illegible]resentatives to the General Assembly and to Congress this to be held at William O Price in Bay. After the formation of the county the business of the [illegible] adjourning as the county seat was in the [illegible]dant of the inhabitants, in [illegible] one of the reasons for the formation of the county on [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] Hill.

[illegible] Court [illegible] John E.S & J. Hamilton [illegible].